

on the old Indian Atlas, Sheet No. 78, is “Yerlabundah” (? Irala-rock). The Irala are the wild folk who roam the jungle in search of forest products and a free silvan life. During the rainy season some of them are said to dwell in these tombs, many of which would afford them perfect dwelling-houses, and the marks and relics of their recent occupation are to be seen frequently and unmistakeably.

I know of but three or four other places where these peculiar rounded slabs are to be seen, but they will probably be found to be more common when looked for.

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*The Coins of the Mahārājahs of Kángra.*—By C. J. RODGERS.

(With a plate.)

Kángra is the name of a fort and town situated at the junction of two mountain streams which form a tributary of the Bías on its right bank ere it leaves the hills. The coins in the accompanying Plate II go by the name of Kángra coins now-a-days. Bnt the rájahs whose coins they are were known in history by the name of the Rájahs of Trigartta, the country of the three rivers, the Ráví, Bías and Sutlej. The family of these Rájahs claims its descent from Susarma Chandra, governor of Multán at the time of the Mahábhá-rata. After the war was over they went to the hills for refuge and erected the fort of Kángra for their protection. The district under the Rájahs of Kángra seems to have been like all districts governed by such Rájahs in old unsettled times. Kángra was their mountain stronghold. The neighbouring district of Jalandhar was subject to them, and must have furnished a considerable portion of their revenue. So the Rájahs of Kángra would be known at that time as Rájahs of Jalandhar. Being of the lunar race they kept the title *Chandra* after their names.

The Indo-Scythians conquered the fort of Kángra. When Mahmúd conquered it “the genealogical roll of the Indo-Scythian princes of Kabul for sixty generations was found in the fortress of Nagarkoṭ by Mahmúd’s soldiers”\* (Kángra is known in the history of India by the name of *Nagarkoṭ*). From this fact, and from the immense amount of wealth taken from Kángra by Mahmúd, General Cunningham infers that “Káng-ra must have belonged to the Rájahs of Kabul for several generations, and

\* General Cunningham’s Archæological Report, Vol. V, for 1872-3, p. 155. The General quotes Abu Rihán’s statement as contained in Al Biruni. I may here state that I am indebted to this report for nearly all my facts concerning the Mahārājahs of Kángra and to General Cunningham for much valuable aid generously given when I began to collect the coins drawn in the plate.

that it was their chief stronghold in which they deposited their treasures.”\* Not only this, but General Cunningham thinks that the wealth accumulated in Kángra at that time consisted of the silver pieces of the Hindu Rájahs of Kabul which are even now found so plentifully throughout the Panjáb—the coins of Samanta Deva, Syalapati Deva, Bhím Deva and Khadavaya Deva.†

One fact bearing strongly on this view the General seems to have overlooked. All the coins of the Kángra Rájahs with some few rare exceptions are of the horseman type. Some are of the bull and horseman type with the names of the Rájahs over the bulls. Nay more than this, the earliest Kángra coins bear the name of Samanta Deva over the bull. That they were coined in Kángra no one will doubt who will cast his eye over the coins of the Rájahs in the plate. I once attributed the first two coins to Susarma Chandra. But a careful examination of the letters together with the results of a comparison of the letters of other coins with these, has convinced me that they are the coins of Samanta Deva.

The list of names of the Rájahs of Kángra from Susarma Chandra down to the last Rájahs is of course obtainable. There is no reason for doubting its correctness. But as yet no coins have been found going further back than Prithví or Píthama to whom General Cunningham assigns the year 1330 A. D. This is an approximation only, but based on fair reasoning. Judging by the number of coins obtainable of any prince we may I think fairly infer the length of his reign. The fewness of the coins argues that the reign was short. Before Píthama I believe the coins of Samanta Deva were coined and used at Kángra. There are immense numbers of these coins found yearly in the Panjáb. Some of them have the horseman after the usual type, horse well shown and the whole body of the rider with letters on either side his head. The bull is well developed too and the name above it is generally legible. But the Kángra type of Samanta Deva, which the die-cutters of the mints of the Rájahs of Kángra seem to have slavishly adhered to, is unmistakeable, after it is once studied and known. The other well drawn coins are probably those of the Kabul or some other mint.

We must not be surprised if the coins of all the Rájahs are not obtainable. The coins of Kashmír, though very abundant, have many kings unrepresented. The coins of Chumba a neighbouring state to Kángra bear only the names of a few Rájahs, although the list of kings numbers no less than 170 sovereigns. Coining seems to have always been considered the peculiar privilege of paramount sovereigns or of independent rulers. Bearing this in mind, we need not wonder if any hiatus occurs in the lists of

\* *Ibid.*, p. 156.

† I have seen several hundreds of these coins this year.—C. J. R.

coins as compared with that of the Rājahs. Nor must we wonder if a small number of coins turns up bearing names of rulers to whom we cannot attribute any country. Jalandhar and Kāngra must have been subject at different periods to Kashmir as well as Kabul and perhaps to Kanauj. General Cunningham gives the following list :—\*

Accessions.	Name in list.	Name on Coins.	REMARKS.	
1330.	Prithvi.	Pithama.	} Brothers. Contemporary of Muhammad Sayid of Delhi, A. D. 1433—1446.	
1345.	Purva.	Apurvva.		
1360.	Rupa.	Rūpa.		
1375.	Sringara.	Singāra.		
1390.	Megha.	Megha.		
1405.	Hari.	Hari.		
1420.	Karmma.	Karmma.		
1435.	Sansāra.	Sansāra.		
1450.	Devanga.	Avatāra.		Contemporary of Muhammad Sayid of Delhi, A. D. 1433—1446. There is <i>one</i> coin known of Devanga.
1465.	Narendra.	Narendra.		
1480.	Suvira.	.....	} Died 1528, A. D.	
1495.	Prayaga.	.....		
1510.	Rāma.	Rāma.		
1528.	Dharmma.	Dharmma.		
1563.	Manikya.	.....		
1570.	Jaya.	.....		
1585.	Vridhhi.	.....		
1610.	Triloka.	Triloka.		
				Rebelled against Jahāngir, 1619 A. D. Triloka was the last king who coined. There are 12 more names given in the list.

A little study of Plate II will show that the coins are of several kinds. The commonest is that which has a bull on the obverse, with the name of Rājah above the bull. The reverse in every case except one has on it what is intended for an image of the horseman and horse. But as a rule there are only the legless hind-quarters together with the thigh and boot of the rider visible. The one mark on nearly all of them is the *spear* the horseman carries. First of all fixing this and remembering that the spear is carried close behind the man's thigh, to the right should come the horse's head and to the left the hind-quarters. But in reality only portions come on the coin. The die must have been as large as the silver coins of Samanta Deva which are a little broader than a four-anna piece. The boot is in some cases fully visible. But the head of the horseman is nowhere to be found. The spear has a notch on it near the bottom and a flag at the top. So it was a regular lance. Whether the man wore armour or not we can't say.

These coins are found in considerable numbers not in Kāngra itself, but in Ludīāna, Jalandhar and Umrīsur. Vast quantities of them are how-

\* Vol. V, Archæological Report, p. 152.

ever annually melted down and very soon there will be no more obtainable. Some of them may contain a very small amount of silver. It is very seldom I now meet with any in Umritsur. It is so with everything. I do not know what provision Government may be making to secure a cabinet of coins for the museums of the country. I believe no provision whatever is being made. A few private collectors are at work for their own cabinets which in the course of a few years will find their way to Europe. The coming generation will have to receive history on mere hearsay. The numismatic monuments are fast disappearing. The old Rājahs in many cases are known already only by name. No records are obtainable of them. One would think that before it is too late Government should interest itself in the matter. The British Museum is far richer in the coins of India than any Museum in India. This is a mistake. If India is to be for the Indians, it is a pity to export from the country all those mementoes of former things and dynasties. Patriotism and loyalty go hand in hand with us. It would surely be wise in our Government to create a love of country in the hearts of the people of India. We want something to displace the grasping and selfishness which everywhere show themselves. The historic remains which lie round about us are not understood, or are rather misunderstood and not valued. History is taught as a matter of dates and names and is useless. Museums are collections of odd things which are to the educated and uneducated alike voiceless. The teachers of history cannot read the coins which would add interest to their lessons.

Of all the provinces of India, the Panjáb has more historic associations than any other. From the time of Darius to that of the Empress of India, the Panjáb has been an arena on which great struggles have taken place. Yet the coin cabinet of the Lahore Museum is wretchedly poor. A few Græco-Bactrian coins, a few Indo-Scythian coins and a few odds and ends with the names attached to them of the persons who presented them (!) are all that are visible to the ordinary visitor. The curator, in whose charge are the valuable coins which are always kept under lock and key, is generally engaged during the day. So visitors passing through Lahore see next to nothing of what ought to be visible at all times. There is no catalogue of the coins, and many valuable ones have been already lost. This is again a mistake. It is exactly the same at Delhi, where the coins are all in a box !!

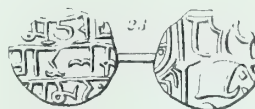
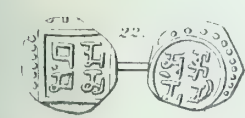
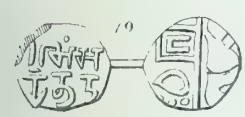
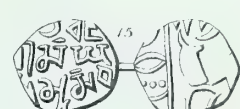
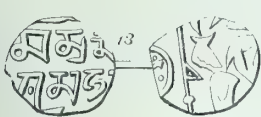
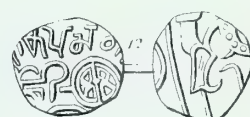
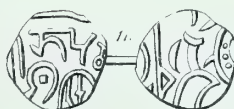
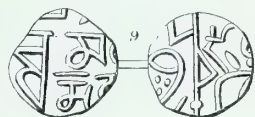
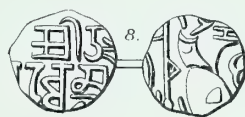
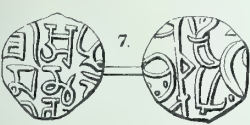
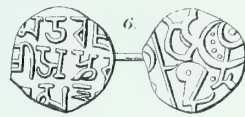
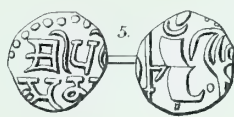
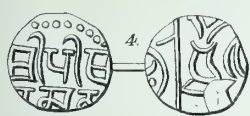
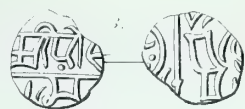
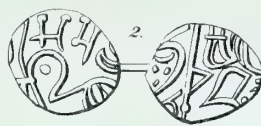
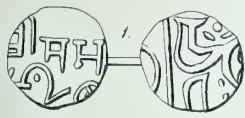
These remarks are made not in a captious spirit, but with a real desire to direct attention to the proper use of museums and provincial coin cabinets, and also with the hope that both be made more use of in the education of the people for whom the museums were built and with whose money they are supported.

I will now proceed to make a few notes on the coins represented in Plate II.

- No. 1. is a coin of Samanta Deva. Obverse above bull *Srī Sam*: reverse horseman.
- No. 2. is a coin of the same prince, with *Srī Samanta* above bull, reverse horseman.
- No. 3. *Pīthama*. Obverse *Srī Pīthama Chandra (Deva)*, reverse horseman.
- No. 4. Ditto Obv. ditto., rev. do.
- No. 5. Ditto. Obv. ditto., rev. do. Horse's neck ornaments shown and whole leg with pointed boot.
- No. 6. *Apurvva*. Obv. Maharajah *Srī Apurvva Chandra (Deva)*, rev. horseman plain and horse's eye visible.
- No. 7. Ditto. Obv. *Srī Apu(rvva) Chandra Deva Maharajah*, reverse horseman.
- No. 8. Ditto. Obv. *Srī Apurvva Chandra*, rev. horseman.
- No. 9. Ditto. Obv. (*Srī Apu*)rvva Cha(ndra) Deva, rev. horseman.
- No. 10. Ditto. Obv. bull, above which *Srī Apu(rvva)*, rev. horseman.
- No. 11. *Rupa*. Obv. bull, above which *Srī Rupa Cha(ndra)*, rev. horseman.
- No. 12. Obv. bull, above which *Srī Rupa Chandra*, rev. horseman. The horses of Nos. 10, 11 and 12, have beads round their necks.
- No. 13. *Apurvva*. Obv. (*Apurvva*) Chandra Deva Maha(rajah), rev. horseman.
- No. 14. *Singāra*. Obv. Mahārājah *Srī Singāra Chandra Deva*, rev, horseman. Very poor.
- No. 15. *Megha*. Obv. Maharajah *Srī Megha Chandra Deva*, rev. horseman.
- No. 16. *Hari*. Obv. Maharajah *Srī Hari Chandra Deva*, rev. horseman. Neck ornaments and eye of horse visible.\*
- No. 17. Ditto. Obv. Mahārājah *Srī Hari Cha(ndra Deva)*. The letters of the first line are all suspended from one line drawn across the coin as in Hindu letters. Rev. horseman. Head of horse, very much deteriorated.

(This king Hari soon after his accession tumbled into a well while out hunting. He was rescued after an interval of several days had elapsed. In that

\* Since I wrote this article I have come across a coin of Hari हरि. The coin in the paper is of Hari हरि. Now in conversing a few days ago with General Cunningham on this matter I said that I was inclined to ascribe this rare coin to the king who was the brother of Karmma and who was hidden in a well for some days. He quite agreed with me. The coins of the paper which as I say are found in great numbers, would then resolve themselves into the coins of the king Hari who lived after Triloka, A. D. 1630-50, whose coins those of Hari resemble in make and letters.



interval however he was accounted dead : his brother ascended the throne, and his wives mounted the funeral pile. . When he came back he found Karmma reigning, and he went and took up his abode in the outskirts of his brother's dominions. I cannot account for Hari's coins being so plentiful. Out of several thousands I have seen, I have seen only one of Karmma, while at least one-fourth of the whole must have been Hari's. A Hari succeeded Triloka : perhaps these or at least some of them may be his coins although General Cunningham's list closes with Triloka.)

No. 18. *Karmma.* Obv. bull, above which Srī Karmma, rev. horseman.

No. 19. *Sinsára.* Obv. Srī Sansára Chandra Deva, rev. horseman with a large flag on which is a peculiar mark.

No. 20. *Avatára.* Obv. Maharajah Sri Avatára Chandra Deva, rev. horseman.

(There is one coin of Devanga, the *god-bodied*, known ; I gave one to General Cunningham.)

No. 21. *Narendra.* Obv. Maharajah Srī Narendra Chandra Deva, rev. horseman.

No. 22. *Dharmma.* Obv., in a square area which is surrounded by a circle of dots, Dharmma Chandra ; rev., in a circle surrounded with a circle of dots, Durga Deví.

No. 23. *Triloka.* Obv. Maharajah Srī Triloka Chandra Deva. All the lines have the letters suspended from one line going across the coin. This coin and No. 3. are alike in this matter. Rev. horseman.

No. 24. Ditto. Obv. ditto without lines, each letter separate, rev. horseman. Hinder part of leg and thigh visible and hind-quarters and legs of the horse.\*

The coins of Megha, Avatára Karmma and Dharmma are very rare. "The coins of Rupa, Singára, Sansára and Narendra are rare. Those of Pitbama, Apurvva, Triloka and Hari are common. The Kāngra types of Samanta Deva are very common."

\* Where the whole name is not on the coins, the part omitted is in brackets.